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IN THE CLAIMS:

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Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): An automatic ice making machine which comprises an evaporator (14) and electric heating means (H1 to HN) in an ice making section (10), configured so that a coolant is circulatingly supplied through said evaporator (14) so as to cool said ice making section (10) and ice making water is supplied to the ice making section (10) so as to form an ice block (M) during ice making operation while heat is generated in said heating means (H1 to HN) by applying current so as to remove the ice block (M) from said ice making section (10) by melting during deicing operation, wherein

said ice making section (10) is configured by arranging a plurality of vertically extending ice making members (11) so that the ice making members are horizontally adjacent to each other;

said ice making section (10) each of said ice making members (11) is composed of

a metal plate (12a) to which said evaporator (14) is fixed,
the heating means (H1 to HN), and an insulating layer (12b) lying
between the metal plate (12a) and the heating means (H1 to HN) such that said metal plate
(12a), heating means (H1 to HN) and insulating layer (12b) are provided in layers, thus
forming an ice making area (A) which is formed in generally U-shaped in transverse section
and vertically extends; [.,.] and

an external outline of said heating means (H1 to HN) is configured so
as to be located inside an external outline of said insulating layer (12b), and said heating
means (H1 to HN) are provided only in an area where ice making water streams down in said
ice making area (A).

Claim 4 (new): The automatic ice maker of claim 3, wherein said insulating layer (12b) comprises a thermoplastic for bonding said heating means (H1 to HN) and said metal plate (12a).